

first to open in my gardens, but this season *Cypripedium parviflorum* will beat it. This will be open by the middle of May. My *Platanthera* was originally from Massachusetts, and being from a more northern region, required, perhaps, less heat to advance it than the same species from locations nearer home.

Mr. Wheeler, of Berlin, Mass., finds it in bloom the last week in June at Winchester, N. H., at an altitude of 1,000 feet; so that the time given in the books (July and August), even in its average locations, is probably much too late.—T. MEEHAN, *Germantown, Phil.*

DOUBLE THALICTRUM ANEMONOIDES.—Double *Thalictrums* are occasionally found, as many instances are on record in the literature of the past one hundred years. Those which I have seen have been white, and, as the florists would say, rather semi-double than double. I have one now in flower sent me last year by Mr Dory, of Springfield, Ohio, that is as double as it is possible to be, and of a pretty, rosy tint of white. The petals are as regularly arranged as in a first-class double *Camellia*. The object of this note is to encourage observers still to look for double ones; as although double ones are now not novelties, there may be novel shades of color.—T. M.

COBÆA SCANDENS.—It may be worth noting that the flowers of *Cobæa scandens*, the familiar hot-house climber, are distinctly *proterandrous*. At the time that the stamens are shedding their pollen, the trifold stigma is completely closed, nor does it open until the anthers have become functionless.—W. W. BAILEY.

NOTES ON CERTAIN SILKWEEDS.—Of the rare *Asclepias Meadii* Torr., which does not appear to have been previously detected but in Illinois and Iowa, the present writer found two nice specimens near Lancaster, Wisconsin, in flower on the 19th of June, 1879. The species differs notably from *A. obtusifolia*, Mich., with which it is grouped, in that the umbel is nodding by an abrupt bend in the upper part of the peduncle. This character is easily effaced in the process of removing the wilted specimen from damp to dry papers, and so the dry specimens may not have shown it.

The habitat of *A. Sullivantii*, Engelm., according to Dr. Gray, in the Synoptical Flor., is, "from Ohio to Kansas." But upon the wet prairies of central Minnesota it is by far more common than in any locality further north. The far western *A. speciosa*, Torr., has not been reported from farther east than Nevada, but it is frequent in the central part of Minnesota, where the eastern *A. Cornuti*, Decaisne, seems to reach its western limit. To these observations upon known species may be appended the following description of a new one:

ASCLEPIAS UNCIALIS. Stems several, only an inch or two long, decumbent; leaves from ovate to narrowly lanceolate, short-petioled or sessile, smooth and somewhat glaucous, the margins white tomentose; umbels three or four flowered, sessile; corolla dull purple; hoods broadly ovate, truncate, a little shorter than the anthers, their dimpled auricles produced into acuminate points which rest against the anthers